



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
10B Airline Drive, Albany, New York 12235

Contact: Joe Morse
www.nass.usda.gov/ny

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Monday, March 1, 2010

NEW YORK HONEY PRODUCTION DECREASES

Honey production from beekeepers with five or more hives in New York totaled 3.06 million pounds during 2009, according to Stephen Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field Office. This total is down 13 percent from the 2008 production of 3.50 million pounds.

The 2009 production was extracted from 47,000 colonies, down from the 50,000 colonies in 2008. Honey yield per colony averaged 65 pounds, 7 percent above the 2008 yield. Honey stocks on hand across the State as of December 15, 2009 totaled 978 thousand pounds, a decrease of 22 percent from the 1.26 million pounds a year earlier.

Prices received by beekeepers in New York averaged \$1.83 per pound for all methods of sale during 2009, 10 percent more than the 2008 average price. Value of honey production for the State in 2009 totaled \$5.59 million, compared with \$5.78 million in 2008.

National honey production in 2009 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 144 million pounds, down 12 percent from 2008. There were 2.46 million colonies producing honey in 2009, up 5 percent from 2008. Yield per colony averaged 58.5 pounds, down 16 percent from the 69.9 pounds in 2008, and is the lowest yield since 1989.

U.S. Honey prices increased to a record high during 2009 to 144.5 cents, up 2 percent from 142.1 cents in 2008. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, cooperatives, and private channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2008 crop reflect honey sold in 2008 and 2009. Some 2008 crop honey was sold in 2009, which caused some revisions to the 2008 crop prices.

#

3-1-10